

## Homes for Ukraine Update 13 – Friday 18 November 2022

Welcome to our latest update for hosts taking part in the Homes for Ukraine scheme in Norfolk.

This week we have information updates about future planning, communicating with guests, community help and host networking sessions. We have also included links to sources of advice for hosts and updated vehicle licensing guidance.

### Future planning

As hosts approach the six-month stage, we will visit hosts and guests to check in and see if any support is needed. The aim of the visit is to give both guests and hosts the opportunity to independently discuss what's working well, what improvements could be made, any more support that may be needed and future plans. When you reach this stage in your hosting journey, a local council officer will get in touch with you to arrange an appointment

Take time to talk to your guests about their future living arrangements. This will help them to decide and prepare for their next steps. GOV.UK have [guidance which explains guests options when you have lived in the UK for 6 months](#). The guide is also available in [Ukrainian](#) and [Russian](#).

Please update us as soon as possible about any changes to your hosting arrangement, especially if you are choosing to end your hosting commitment at six months. The more notice we have, the more effectively we can support transition arrangements and re-matches. Early notice is also important if your guest has found a new host in a different part of the UK. The new council will need to approve the match and the move so that the host is eligible for the thank you payment. We therefore need to contact the new council on your guest's behalf as soon as possible.

### Communications with guests

We are currently updating the contact information we have with guests which means that we are now able to email them directly.

We aim eventually to be able to send messages in their preferred languages, but in the meantime will email them in English, Ukrainian and Russian.

When we send a message out to all guests, we will send you a copy in English too. This means you will get to see what information your guests are receiving from us and will help if they ask you any questions about the messages received.

## **Change in location for Community Help sessions in Diss**

The Community Help sessions for hosts and guests are still happening across Norfolk. The Diss session held on Wednesdays from 10am to 2pm has just changed location from the Corn Hall to the Derry Room, at the United Reformed Church, Mere Street, Diss, IP22 4AD. This change of venue means the session can now run alongside the local Ukrainian coffee morning.

The things that we are supporting hosts and guests with at these sessions is naturally changing over time. Currently we are supporting guests with housing issues, benefits forms, employment support and learning English.

You can [find a full list of these sessions](#) on our website.

## **Importing a vehicle to the UK from Ukraine**

The Government has updated guidance on what guests need to do if they arrive in the UK in their own vehicle. If this applies to your guest it would be a great help if you could share this information with them and help them understand what's required.

### **If they arrive in a personal vehicle**

They will not need to register or tax their vehicle in the UK **if all of the following apply:**

- they have arrived in the UK and are coming from Ukraine
- the vehicle is registered and taxed in its home country
- they only use the vehicle in the UK for no more than 6 months

### **If their vehicle will be in the UK for more than 6 months**

They can either:

- [apply for their vehicle to stay longer without paying import duties](#) if they have a permit issued by the Home Office allowing them to stay longer than 6 months
- [apply for transfer of residence relief](#), which means they would pay no import duties on personal items and household goods they bring into the UK if they become resident

They must still register and tax their vehicle with the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) if they become resident or stay longer than 6 months.

This information is available in English, Ukrainian and Russian on the [Government website](#)

## Hosts networking and training sessions

Following on from the successful sessions in Dereham, Aylsham and Diss we have now planned some sessions in King's Lynn and Norwich.

All hosts and prospective hosts of the Homes for Ukraine Scheme in Norfolk are welcome to come along to these face-to-face sessions to share experiences, access training and get information, advice, and support.

Focused specifically on your needs as hosts, these sessions are a great opportunity to come together, separate from your Ukrainian guests, to learn from others and to get your questions answered. For prospective hosts it provides a head start on the scheme and a helpful insight into what to expect.

The December sessions will look at cultural adjustment and festivals, the January sessions will give an overview of the whole scheme from pre-arrival through to move on, and the sessions in February will focus on moving forwards, accommodation, and employment.

These events have been organised by the County and District Councils – they are free to attend and need to be booked as places are limited.

Booking is now open - just click on the event you would like to attend to fill in our online booking form.

### King's Lynn

- [Tuesday 13 December – 2.30-4.30pm, King's Centre Church, King's Lynn](#)
- [Tuesday 17 January – 2.30-4.30pm, King's Centre Church, King's Lynn](#)
- [Tuesday 21 February - 2.30-4.30pm, King's Centre Church, King's Lynn](#)
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### Norwich

- [Thursday 15 December – 12 noon to 2pm – Vernon Castle meeting room, Millennium Library, The Forum, Norwich](#)
- [Wednesday 11 January – 12 noon to 2pm - Heritage meeting room, Millennium Library, The Forum, Norwich](#)
- [Wednesday 15 February – 12 noon to 2pm – Heritage meeting room, Millennium Library, The Forum, Norwich](#)

If you need help with making an online booking, please call Norfolk Libraries on 01603 774774 and choose the option to book an event, or pop into your local library.

## Government support pages for hosts

If you are not aware already, the Government has some helpful links to [sources of support for hosts](#) on their website. The 'after your guests have arrived' section has been extended and now includes a new section on what happens after the first six months of sponsorship.

## **For more information**

More [information about the Homes for Ukraine scheme is available on our website](#) where you will find lots of additional information including a [toolkit for hosts](#) that you can download, sources of local support and all [previous updates](#).

However, if you can't find an answer to your question, please email us at [ncchomesforukraine@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:ncchomesforukraine@norfolk.gov.uk)

Thanks again for your generous support of the Homes for Ukraine scheme.